

From: [Hargobind Atwal](#)
Subject: George Floyd, Tyree Crawford, Frank Smart, Philando Castle, Paul O'Neal...and Many Others
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 7:10:40 PM

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Hello,

As a concerned American, I am contacting you because I am extremely troubled by what I have seen recently regarding the blatant racism against African-Americans by police across the nation.

As a public servant, what efforts will you make to protect black lives? In addition, what safeguards are in place to prevent occurrences of racism by officers? Will you develop a plan for defunding law enforcement, and reallocate these funds to critical social services? How do internal affairs investigate and respond to reports of discrimination, racism, and unjust brutality? Will you protect and expand current investment in community-led health and safety strategies, instead of investing in police? How can the general public be ensured that incidences of racist violence by police are not simply swept under the rug? In particular, how can I be sure that police officers are held accountable for their actions? Are all officers required to wear body cameras to record their responses to calls on video? What have you done to compel local law enforcement agencies to immediately cease enacting violence on community members? How are you working on eliminating qualified immunity for police officers that has allowed too many incidents of police misconduct to disappear without consequence? Have you pledged to never again support increased police funding? Do departments perform any form of anti-racism training for officers?

If these safeguards are not in place, then they certainly should be. The current system isn't working and changes must be made to how law is enforced and funded in this country. I do not approve of my local taxes being used to fund law enforcement agencies that perpetuate racism and violence. Services that I would rather see funded include: scientific research, increased funding for nutrition and food access programs increased social services for formerly incarcerated residents mental health professionals, crisis de-escalators, public education, support for victims of domestic abuse and addiction, to name only a few.

Your attention to my concerns are very appreciated. I hope to hear back from you soon.

Signed,

Hargobind Atwal